SESS. *n. s.* [for *assess*, *cess*, or *cesse*.] Rate; cess charged; tax.

His army was so ill paid and governed, as the English suffered more damage by the *sess* of his soldiers than they gained profit or security by abating the pride of their enemies. *Davies's Hist. of Ireland.*

SESSION. *n. s.* [*session*, French; *sessio*, Latin.]

1. The act of sitting.

He hath as man, not as God only, a supreme dominion over quick and dead; for so much his ascension into heaven, and his *session* at the right-hand of God do import. *Hooker.*

Many, tho' they concede a table-gesture, will hardly allow this usual way of *session*. *Brown's Vulg. Errors.*

2. An assembly of magistrates or senators.

They are ready t'appear
Where you shall hold your *session*. *Shakesp. K. Lear.*
Summon a *session* that we may arraign
Our most disloyal lady. *Shakesp.*
The old man mindful still of moan,
Weeping, thus bespake the *session*. *Chapman's Hom. Odys.*
Of their *session* ended they bid cry
The great result. *Milton.*
Call'd to council all the Achaian states,
Nor herald sworn the *session* to proclaim. *Pope's Odys.*

3. The space for which an assembly sits, without intermission or recess.

It was contrary to the course of parliament, that any bill that had been rejected should be again preferred the same *session*. *Clarendon.*

The second Nicene council affords us plentiful assistance, in the first *session*, wherein the pope's vicar declares that Meletius was ordained by Arian bishops, and yet his ordination was never questioned. *Stillingfleet.*

Many decrees are enacted, which at the next *session* are repealed. *Nevvis.*

4. A meeting of justices: as the sessions of the peace.

SE'STERCE. *n. s.* [*sesterce*, French; *sestertium*, Latin.] Among the Romans, a sum of about 8 l. 1 s. 5 d. half-penny *sterling*. *Dict.*

Several of them would rather chuse a sum in *sesterces*, than in pounds *sterling*. *Addison on Medals.*

To SET. *v. a.* preterite *I set*; part. pass. *I am set*. [*Setzen*, or *setyan*, Gothick; *settan*, Saxon; *setten*, Dutch.]

1. To place; to put in any situation or place; to put.

E're I could
Give him that parting kiss which I had *set*
Betwixt two charming words, comes in my father. *Shaks.*

But that my admirable dexterity of wit, counterfeiting the action of an old woman, delivered me, the knave constable had *set* me i' th' common stocks for a witch. *Shakesp.*

They that are younger have me in derision, whose fathers I would have disdained to have *set* with the dogs of my flock. *Job.* xxx. 1.

He that hath received his testimony, hath *set* to his seal, that God is true. *John* iii. 33.

They have *set* her a bed in the midst of the slain. *Ezek.* xxxii.

God *set* them in the firmament, to give light upon the earth. *Gen.* i. 17.

In their *setting* of their threshold by my thresholds, they have defiled my holy name. *Ezek.* xliii. 8.

I have *set* thee for a tower among my people. *Jer.* vi. 27.

By his aid aspiring
To *set* himself in glory above his peers. *Milton.*
She *sets* the bar that causes all my pain;
One gift refused, makes all their bounty vain. *Dryd.*

The lives of the revealers may be justly enough *set* over against the revelation, to find whether they agree. *Aterb.*

2. To put into any condition, state, or posture.

They thought the very disturbance of things established an hire sufficient to *set* them on work. *Hooker.*

That man that sits within a monarch's heart,
Would he abuse the countenance of the king,
Alack! what mischiefs might he *set* abroach? *Shakesp.*
Our princely general,
Will give you audience; and wherein
It shall appear that your demands are just,
You shall enjoy them; ev'ry thing *set* off
That might so much as think you enemies. *Shakesp.*
This present enterprize *set* off his head,
I do not think a braver gentleman
Is now alive. *Shakesp. Hen.* IV.

Ye caused every man his servant, whom he had *set* at liberty, to return. *Jer.* xxxiv 16.

Every sabbath ye shall *set* it in order. *Lev.* xxiv. 8.

I am come to *set* a man at variance against his father *Mat.*

Thou shalt pour out into all those vessels, and *set* aside that which is full. 2 *Kings* iv 4.

The beauty of his ornament he *set* in majesty, but they made images; therefore have I *set* it far from them. *Ezek.*

The gates of thy land shall be *set* wide open. *Nah.* iii. 13.

The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are *set* on edge. *Jer.* xxxi. 29.

This tongue defileth the whole body, and *sets* on fire the course of nature, and is *set* on fire of hell. *Jas.* iii. 6.

The flapping might be *set* on work by wind, by transportations from port to port. *Howel.*

This wheel *set* on going, did pour a warm on the Venetians with such a temperate, as Padua and Trevigi were taken from them. *Howel.*

That this may be done with the more advantage, fitting houses must be *set* apart for the examination. *Dryden.*

Finding the river fordable at the foot of the hill, I *set* over his horse. *Tillotson.*

Equal success had *set* these champions high,
And both resolv'd to conquer, or to die. *Dryden.*

Nothing renders a man so contemptible for it *sets* him above the meaner sort of company, and makes him intolerable to the better. *Government of the Tongue.*

Some are reclaimed by punishment, and some are *set* right by good nature *L'Estrange.*

The fire was form'd, she *sets* the kettle on. *Dryd.*
Leda's present came,
To ruin Troy, and *set* the world on flame. *Dryd.*
Set call Hesiodus to school, and let him be
Instructed there in rules of husbandry. *Dryd.*
Over labour'd with so long a course,
'Tis time to set at ease the smoking horse. *Dryd.*
The punish'd crime shall *set* my soul at ease,
And murm'ring manes of my friend appease. *Dryd.*
Jove call'd in haste
The son of Maia with severe decree,
To kill the keeper, and to *set* her free. *Dryd.*

If such a tradition were at any time endeavoured to be *set* on foot, it is not easy to imagine how it should at first gain entertainment. *Tillotson.*

When the father looks four on the child, every body else should put on the same coldness, till forgiveness asked, and a reformation of his fault has *set* him right again, and restored him to his former credit. *Locke on Ed.*

His practice must by no means cross his precepts, unless he intend to *set* him wrong. *Locke on Education.*

If the fear of absolute and irresistible power *set* it on upon the mind, the idea is likely to stick the deeper. *Locke.*

When he has once chosen it, it raises desire that proportionably gives him uneasiness which determines his will, and *sets* him at work in pursuit of his choice, on all occasions. *Locke.*

This river,
When nature's self lay ready to expire,
Quench'd the dire flame that *set* the world on fire. *Addison.*

The many hospitals every where erected, serve rather to encourage idleness in the people than to *set* them at work. *Addison.*

A couple of lovers agreed at parting, to *set* aside one half hour in the day to think of each other. *Addison.*

Your fortunes place you far above the necessity of learning, but nothing can *set* you above the ornament of it. *Pulteney.*

Their first movement and impressed motions demand the impulse of an almighty hand to *set* them agoing *Grew.*

Men of quality look upon it as one of their distinguishing privileges, not to *set* other people at ease, with the loss of the least of their own. *Pope.*

That the wheels were but small, may be guessed from a custom they have of taking them off, and *setting* them on. *Pope.*

Be frequent in *setting* such causes at work, whose effects you desire to know. *Watts.*

3. To make motionless; to fix immoveably.

Struck with the sight, inanimate she seems,
Set are her eyes, and motionless her limbs. *Cowley.*

4. To fix; to state by some rule.

Hereon the prompter falls to flat railing in the bitterest terms; which the gentleman with a *set* gesture and countenance still soberly related, until the ordinary, driven at last into a mad rage, was fain to give over. *Carew.*

The town of Bern has handsome fountains planted, at *set* distances, from one end of the streets to the other. *Addison.*

5. To regulate; to adjust.

In court they determine the king's good by his desires, which is a kind of *setting* the sun by the dial. *Suckling.*

God bears a different respect to places *set* apart and consecrated to his worship, to what he bears to places designed to common uses. *South.*

Our palates grow into a liking of the seasoning and cookery, which by custom they are *set* to. *Locke.*

He rules the church's blest dominions,
And *sets* men's faith by his opinions. *Prior.*
Against experience he believes,
He argues against demonstration;
Plead's when his reason he deceives,
And *sets* his judgment by his passion. *Prior.*

6. To fit to musick; to adapt with notes.

Set thy own songs, and sing them to thy lute. *Dryden.*

Grief he tames that fetters it in verse;
But when I have done so,
Some man, his art or voice to show,
Doth *set* and sing my pain;
And by delighting many, frees again
Grief, which verse did restrain. *Donne.*

I had one day *set* the hundredth psalm, and was singing the first line, in order to put the congregation into the tune. *Spect.*

7. To plant, not sow.

Whatsoever fruit useth to be *set* upon a root or a slip, if it be sown, will degenerate. *Bacon's Nat. History.*

I prostrate fell,
To shrubs and plants my vile devotion paid,
And *set* the bearded leek to which I pray'd. *Prior.*

8. To intersperse or mark with any thing.

As with stars, their bodies all
And wings were *set* with eyes. *Milton.*
High on their heads, with jewels richly *set*,
Each lady wore a radiant coronet. *Dryden.*

The body is smooth on that end, and on this 'tis *set* with ridges round the point. *Woodward.*

9. To reduce from a fractured or dislocated state.

Can honour *set* to a leg? no: or an arm? no: honour hath no skill in surgery then? no. *Shakesp. Henry* IV.

Considering what an orderly life I had led, I only commanded that my arm and leg should be *set*, and my body anointed with oil *G. Herbert.*

The fracture was of both the socils of the left leg: he had been in great pain from the time of the *setting*. *Wiseman.*

Credit is gained by course of time, and seldom recovers a strain; but if broken, is never well *set* again. *Temple.*

10. To fix the affection; to determine the resolution.

Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. *Col.* iii. 2.

They should *set* their hope in God, and not forget his works. *Ps.* lxxviii. 7.

Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, the heart of men is fully *set* in them to do evil. *Eccl.*

Set to work millions of spinning worms,
That in their green shops weave the smooth hair'd silk
To deck her sons *Milt.*
Set not thy heart
Thus overfond on that which is not thine. *Milton.*

When we are well, our hearts are *set*,
Which way we care not, to be rich or great. *Denham.*

Our hearts are so much *set* upon the value of the benefits received, that we never think of the bestower. *L'Estrange.*

These bubbles of the shallowest, emptiest sorrow,
Which children vent for toys, and women rain
For any trifle their fond hearts are *set* on. *Dryd. and Lee.*

Should we *set* our hearts only upon these things, and be able to taste no pleasure but what is sensual, we must be extremely miserable when we come unto the other world, because we should meet with nothing to entertain ourselves. *Tillotson.*

No sooner is one action dispatched, which we are *set* upon, but another uneasiness is ready to *set* us on work. *Locke.*

Minds, altogether *set* on trade and profit, often contract a certain narrowness of temper. *Addison.*

Men take an ill natured pleasure in disappointing us in what our hearts are most *set* upon. *Addison's Spectator.*

An Englishman, who has any degree of reflection, cannot be better awakened to a sense of religion in general, than by observing how the minds of all mankind are *set* upon this important point, and how every nation is attentive to the great business of their being. *Addison.*

I am much concerned when I see young gentlemen of fortune so wholly *set* upon pleasures, that they neglect all improvements in wisdom and knowledge. *Addison.*

11. To predetermine; to settle.

We may still doubt whether the Lord, in such indifferent ceremonies as those whereof we dispute, did frame his people of *set* purpose unto any utter dissimilitude with Egyptians, or with any other nation. *Hooker.*

He remembers only the name of Conon, and forgets the other on *set* purpose, to shew his country swain was no great scholar. *Dryden.*

12. To establish; to appoint; to fix.

Of all helps for due performance of this service, the greatest is that very *set* and standing order itself, which, framed with common advice, hath for matter and form prescribed whatsoever is herein publickly done *Hooker.*

It pleased the king to send me, and I *set* him a time. *Neh.* ii.

Am I a sea, or a whale, that thou *settest* a watch over me? *Job* vii. 12.

He *setteth* an end to darkness, and searcheth out all perfection *Job* xxviii. 3.

In studies, whatsoever a man commandeth upon himself, let him *set* hours for it; but whatsoever is agreeable to his nature, let him take no care for any *set* times: for his thoughts will fly to it of themselves, so as the spaces of other business or studies will suffice. *Bacon.*

For using *set* and prescribed forms, there is no doubt but that wholsome words, being known, are aptest to excite judicious and fervent affections. *King Charles.*

His seed, when is not *set*, shall bruise my head. *Milton.*

Though *set* form of prayer be an abomination,
Set forms of petitions find great approbation. *Denham.*
Set places and *set* hours are but parts of that worship we owe. *South.*

That law cannot keep men from taking more use than you *set*, the want of money being that alone which regulates its price, will appear, if we consider how hard it is to *set* a price upon unnecessary commodities; but how impossible it is to *set* a rate upon victuals in a time of famine. *Locke.*

Set him such a task, to be done in such a time. *Locke.*

As in the subordinations of government the king is offended by any insults to an inferior magistrate, so the sovereign ruler of the universe is affronted by a breach of allegiance to those whom he has *set* over us. *Addison.*

Take *set* times of meditating on what is future. *Atterbury.*

Should a man go about, with never so *set* study and design, to describe such a natural form of the year as that which is at present established, he could scarcely ever do it in so few words that were so fit. *Woodward.*

13. To exhibit; to display; to propose. With *before*.

Through the variety of my reading, I *set before* me many examples both of ancient and latter times *Bacon.*

Reject not then what offer'd means: who knows
But God hath *set before* us, to return thee
Home to thy country and his sacred house? *Milton.*
Long has my soul desir'd this time and place,
To *set before* your sight your glorious race. *Dryden.*

All that can be done is to *set* the thing *before* men, and to offer it to their choice. *Tillotson.*

A spacious veil from his broad shoulders flew,
That *set* th' unhappy Phaeton to view:
The flaming chariot and the steeds it shew'd,
And the whole fable in the mantle glow'd. *Addison.*

When his fortune *sets before* him all
The pomps and pleasures that his soul can wish,
His rigid virtue will accept of none *Addison's Cato.*

He supplies his not appearing in the present scene of action, by *setting* his character *before* us, and continually forcing his patience, prudence, and valour upon our observation. *Broome.*

14. To value; to estimate; to rate.

Be you contented
To have a son *set* your decrees at nought?
To pluck down justice from your awful bench,
To trip the course of law? *Shakes. H.* IV.

The backwardness parents shew in divulging their faults, will make them *set* a greater value on their credit themselves, and teach them to be the more careful to preserve the good opinion of others. *Locke.*

If we act by several broken views, and will not only be virtuous, but wealthy, popular, and every thing that has a value *set* upon it by the world, we shall live and die in misery. *Addis.*

Have I not *set* at nought my noble birth,
A spotless fame, and an unblemish'd race,
The peace of innocence, and pride of virtue?
My prodigality has giv'n thee all. *Rowe's Jane Shore.*
Though the same sun, with all diffusive rays,
Blush in the rose and in the diamond blaze,
We prize the stronger effort of his pow'r,
And always *set* the gem above the flow'r. *Pope.*

15. To stake at play.

What sad disorders play begets!
Desperate and mad, at length he *sets*
Those darts, whose points make gods adore. *Prior.*

16. To offer a wager at dice to another.

Who *sets* me else? I'll throw at all. *Shakesp. R.* II.

17. To fix in metal.

Think so vast a treasure as your son
Too great for any private man's possession;
And him too rich a jewel to be *set*
In vulgar metal, or vulgar use. *Dryden.*

He may learn to cut, polish, and *set* precious stones. *Locke.*

18. To embarrass; to distress; to perplex. [This is used, I think, by mistake, for *beset*: as,

Adam, hard *beset*, replied. *Milt. n.*]

Those who raise popular murmurs and discontents against his majesty's government, that they find so very few and so very improper occasions for them, shew how hard they are *set* in this particular, represent the bill as a grievance. *Addis.*

19. To fix in an artificial manner, so as to produce a particular effect.

The proud have laid a snare for me, they have *set* gins. *Ps.*

Unto thy brother thou shalt not lend upon usury, that the Lord may bless thee in all that thou *settest* thine hand to. *Deut.*

With whate'er gall thou *setst* thyself to write,
Thy inoffensive satires never bite. *Dryden.*

21. To fix the eyes.

I will *set* mine eyes upon them for good, and bring them again to this land. *Jer.* xxix. 6.

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